


I N T E R

O F F I C E

MEMO

To: FILE - RIO BRAVO RESTAURANT
From: Gene Pabst 
Subject: Cleanup water to the storm sewer.
Date: October 29, 1998

On October 28, 1998 at approximately 2:45 P.M. Bob Schaefer called to say that he had a complaint of raw sewage surfacing at Rio Bravo Restaurant, 2040 E. Independence, and running onto the right-of-way of the James River Freeway. I immediately went to that location. When I arrived the State Highway Dept. was there and they said that they thought the problem was caused by Rio Bravo washing off their parking lot. I checked the City sanitary sewer and found no problem. I also looked at the sampling manhole for Rio Bravo and found no problem. I then looked around their lot and found where they have been washing the area around their dumpster, which flows to the storm sewer. The dumpster is in an enclosed area on the Northwest corner of their building. They apparently wash the area and everything flows into a storm grate about 2' west of the dumpster. The storm grate had food particles in it. I then went out on the west bound lane of the James River Freeway and met with personnel from the Highway Dept. The storm pipe that serves Rio Bravo, was flowing with greasy looking water and food particles in it. We decided that this problem was being caused by Rio Bravo washing down the area around their dumpster and it was not a surfacing sewage problem. I told the Highway Dept. personnel that I would call the Health Dept. when I returned to the office.

I called the Health Dept. at approximately 4:00 P.M. on October 28, 1998. Ann Fearman, the Health Inspector for Rio Bravo, was out sick. I left a message for her to call me on October 29, 1998.

On October 29, 1998, at approximately 8:30 A.M., Ann Fearman called and we decided to meet at Rio Bravo at 2:00 P.M. When we arrived at Rio Bravo I showed Ann the problem. We then went inside and talked to Doug, Assistant Manager, and told him about the problem. We looked at the area and he said that he did not realize that washing the area around the dumpster was causing a problem and they would change their procedure for cleaning that area immediately. He said they would start sweeping the area. We told him that this change should take care of the problem. I think Rio Bravo was under the impression that this storm drain went to the sanitary sewer. Doug also commented that washing down the area was an easy way to clean.

I will periodically check Rio Bravo to make sure they continue to sweep the dumpster area.

2040 E. Independence